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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/588,938	08/08/2006	Kenneth John Woronoff	60,469-115 PUS1; OT-5256	9734
David J Gaskey Carlson Gaskey & Olds Suite 350 400 W Maple Road Birmingham, MI 48009				
EXAMINER KRUER, STEFAN				
ART UNIT 3654				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/588,938

Applicant(s)

WORONOFF, KENNETH JOHN

Examiner

Stefan Krueer

Art Unit

3654

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 18 - 31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18 - 31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 August 2006 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SE/US)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date (2).
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Disclosure

The disclosure is objected to under 37 CFR 1.71, as being incomprehensible with respect to specific aspects of the disclosure. The following items are not understood:

- With respect to the use of a hand-held drill in lieu of a drive motor (as incorporated in 38, Fig. 2, Page 3, L. 11), in that the two platforms, as understood, are to travel upwards along guide rails in a hoistway, the use of a drive motor with a control cord/wireless controller, though neither disclosed yet possibly used, to operate the drive motor intermittently to incrementally move the platforms along a vertical direction of the guide rails, wherein an operator of said drive motor can be positioned off of an upper one of said platforms is feasible (e.g., said operator positioned on a remote landing, upper platform (?), etc.); however, the use of a hand-held drill to drive gearing (as incorporated in 38, Fig. 2, Page 3, L. 11) in lieu of driving said gearing by a drive motor, is not understood, in view of the need for someone to be directly adjacent said gearing to driving engage said gearing with said hand-held drill.
- With respect to the use of a pressurized actuator in lieu of an (electrical) drive motor (Page 5, L. 21 – Page 6, L. 3, Fig. 5), as understood, said actuator pushes the upper one of two platform upwards and then, upon evacuation of said pressurized fluid, allows said upper of two platforms to fall until a first holding device (34) engages an associated rail to arrest further downward movement of said upper platform; however, further evacuation of said pressurized fluid, as understood from the embodiment as depicted, would not result in a lifting of a lower of said two platforms on which actuator is mounted, unless the actuator was of double-acting construction having two pressure chambers in which pressurized fluid can be introduced/evacuated such that a piston of said actuator is forcibly moved upwards and downwards.

The disclosure reviews a conceptual system, thereby enabling/requiring unnecessary interpretation as to a defined scope of the cooperative elements, their structure as well as their interaction.

Applicant is required to submit an amendment, which clarifies the disclosure so that the examiner may ensure a proper comparison of the invention with the prior art.

Applicant should be careful not to introduce any new matter into the disclosure (i.e., matter which is not supported by the disclosure as originally filed).

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show an arrangement of said primary embodiment utilizing a hand-held drill to forcibly drive a gearing as well as an arrangement to evacuate the pressurized actuator to upwardly move a lower of said two platforms as described in the specification and reviewed above. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claims 18, 22, 25 - 26, 29 - 31 objected to because of the following informalities:

- Re: **Claim 18**, Lines 6 and 11, "... in an opposite direction" is preferably expressed as "... in a direction opposite of said first direction".
- Re: **Claim 22**, Line 1, "where" is preferably expressed as "wherein".
- Re: **Claim 25 and 30 and 26 and 31**, Lines 7 and 3, respectively, "desired" is preferably expressed as "upward".
- Re: **Claim 29**, Line 1, "re" is to be written as "are".

Appropriate corrections are required.

All claims should be revised carefully to correct all other deficiencies similar to the ones noted above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. As reviewed above with respect to the specification and the drawings, the pressurized actuator that enables lifting of a lower of two platforms upon evacuation of hydraulic fluid from said actuator is neither described nor depicted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 18 – 21, 23 - 24, 30 - 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Meiner** (DE 102 15 915A).

Re: **Claims 18, 30 and 23**, **Meiner** discloses an installation assembly for use with elevator systems, comprising:

- a first platform (2);
- a first holding device associated with the first platform ("Form- und Kraftschlusselementen", at 5, Col. 1, L. 40), the first holding device having an operative position (... die automatische aus- und eingefahren werden...) to maintain a vertical position of the first platform relative to a guide rail(s) (5, comprising two guiding columns) by preventing movement of the first platform in a first direction and permitting movement of the platform from the maintained position in an opposite direction;
- a second platform (4);
- a second holding device associated with the second platform (Col. 1, L. 40), the second holding device having an operative position to maintain a vertical position of the second platform relative to the guide rail by preventing movement of the second platform in the first direction and permitting movement of the second platform from the maintained position in the opposite direction; and
- a moving mechanism(1) that incrementally moves the platforms in the one direction.

Re: **Claim 19**, Meiner discloses wherein the moving mechanism *cyclically* (i.e., at regular intervals) (Para. 0004) urges the first and second platforms toward and away from each other.

Re: **Claim 20**, Meiner discloses wherein the holding devices operate to allow only one of the first or second platforms to move at a time responsive to the urging of the moving mechanism (Para. 0004).

Re: **Claim 21**, Meiner discloses wherein the moving mechanism includes a linkage assembly (upper and lower pivot points and corresponding bearing surfaces) connected to the platforms for sequentially pushing the first platform away from the second platform in the one direction then pulling the second platform toward the first platform in the one direction.

Re: **Claim 23**, Meiner discloses wherein the moving mechanism comprises a pressurized actuator (Col. 1, L. 29).

Re: **Claim 24**, Meiner discloses wherein the first and second holding devices comprise elevator safety devices that are adapted to engage the guide rail to allow movement in the one direction and to prevent movement in the opposite direction (as the holding devices extend and bear against both the platforms and the rail(s) from which they extend).

Re: **Claim 31**, Meiner discloses a holding device associated with each of the platforms ("Form- und Kraftschlusselementen", at 5, Col. 1, L. 40), the holding devices allowing movement of the platforms along the guide rails in the desired direction and preventing movement of the platforms along the guide rails in an opposite direction. (Para. 0004).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 22, 25 - 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Meiner* in view of *Nakada et al* (JP 03259887 A).

Re: **Claim 22**, *Meiner* is silent with respect to wherein the linkage assembly comprises a rotatable drive shaft.

Attention is directed to *Nakada et al* who teaches linkage assembly comprises a rotatable drive shaft (20, Fig. 4) having a first end connected to a mover (2 at depicted, not designated vertical element), a lever (arm of 2) connected to an opposite end of the drive shaft, and a connecting link (not designated vertical element) having a first end rotatably connected to the lever such that rotation of the drive shaft causes movement of the connecting link to push and pull his platforms (3, 1) away from and toward each other, respectively.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the reference of *Meiner* with the teaching of *Nakada et al* to utilize a scissors-lift in lieu of a double-acting hydraulic cylinder to afford greater precision in incremental lifting, lack of potential, residual force loading, a lack of hydraulic ancillaries, such as a tank, pump and related controls, and the obviate concerns for the replenishment of hydraulic fluid and potential condensation therein, in all for performance and lower operating costs.

Re: **Claims 25 - 29**, *Meiner* discloses the invention of Claims 18 – and 21; however, is silent with respect to wherein the linkage assembly comprises a rotatable drive shaft.

As reviewed in **Claim 22**, attention is directed to *Nakada et al* who teaches linkage assembly (2, Fig. 4) comprises a rotatable drive shaft (20) having a first end

connected to a mover (lower pivot block of 2 at depicted, not designated vertical element), a lever (arm of 2) connected to an opposite end of the drive shaft, and a connecting link (not designated vertical element) having a first end rotatably connected to the lever such that rotation of the drive shaft causes movement of the connecting link to push and pull his platforms (3, 1) away from and toward each other, respectively, such that rotary movement of the lever [member] causes generally linear movement of the linkage arm.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the reference of Meiner with the teaching of Nakada et al to utilize a scissors-lift in lieu of a double-acting hydraulic cylinder for greater precision in incremental lifting and lack of hydraulic ancillaries as well as concerns for the maintenance thereof, for performance and savings in operating costs.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. St. Germain et al (5,746,290), Nakamura et al (4,830,146), Davis (4,333,549), Skaalen (4,276,958) are cited for reference of a device for moving a platform along a guide rail wherein said platform has a holding device that repeatedly engages and releases said guide rail as said platform is intermittently pushed upwards; a device for moving a platform along guide rails wherein said device has a moving mechanism comprising a double-acting pressurized actuator; a holding device for a platform moving along a guide rail wherein said holding device is adapted to engage a guide rail and comprises a wedged aperture and with rotatable frictional member to prohibit movement of said platform in a downward direction; and a holding device comprising dual pivotable members for repeatedly engaging a guiding surface upon subsequent upward movement, to prohibit movement of said holding device in a direction opposite to said upward movement, respectively.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stefan Kruer whose telephone number is 571.272.5913. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Q. Nguyen, can be reached on 571.272.6952. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571.273.8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866.217.9197 (toll-free).

/Stefan Kruer/

Examiner, Art Unit 3654

20 September 2009

/John Q. Nguyen/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3654